ORDINANCE NO. 2664

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ELECTRONIC MEETINGS OF COUNCIL, QUORUMS AND VOTING BY ELECTRONIC MEANS, AND OTHER RELATED MEASURES FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS

- WHEREAS, S.C. Code section 5-7-250(d) authorizes Council to adopt emergency ordinances (with certain limitations not applicable to this Ordinance) for a limited period of sixty days; and
- whereas, the current coronavirus pandemic has created an emergency for our City and our Nation such that the Council, in the exercise of its statutory authority, believes it to be in the public interest, and in the interest of the effective operation of the City government, to provide the Council with the ability to meet and act expeditiously when needed,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA, IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED AND BY THE AUTHORITY THEREOF, THAT:

- 1. All City Code provisions, and any Council rules or practices, that require the physical presence of Council members to constitute a meeting, or for purposes of determination of a quorum or for purposes of voting, are suspended.
- 2. Council meetings by electronic means (defined as telephonic, broadcast video, computer-based, or other electronic media, or any combination thereof), the presence of a quorum by electronic means, and voting by electronic means, are specifically authorized as the permitted alternative for physical presence of Council members for any Council meeting.
- 3. City Code section 2-61, relating to presentations by citizens to the Council, is suspended. Members of the public may submit written comments which shall be distributed to Council members.
- 4. To the extent determined by the City Manager, or his designee, to be feasible and in accord with public safety and the safety of City employees, members of the public may monitor an electronic meeting of Council (except for executive sessions) in a designated location at City Hall.
- 5. The Mayor, the City Manager or his designee, or a majority of Council, may request a special meeting or emergency meeting of the Council.

This Ordinance, as an emergency ordinance, shall become effective immediately upon Council approval on one reading, and shall expire automatically as of the sixty-first day following the date of enactment.

DONE, RATIFIED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THIS 17^{TH} DAY OF MARCH 2020.

CITY OF SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA

Joseph T. McElveen, Jr., Mayor

Thomas J. Lowery, Mayor Pro Tem

Ione J. Dwyer, Councilwoman

Calvin K. Hastie, Sr., Councilman

Da

David P. Merchant, Councilman

Steven H. Corley, Councilment

Colin C. Davis, Councilman

ATTEST:

Linda D. Hammett, City Clerk

Date of Reading: March 17, 2020